Waiving Interest on Cooperative Loans Payable by Farmers in Drought Affected States

1677. SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have accepted the policy of waiving the interest on loans payable by the farmers to cooperative societies as one of the drought relief measures; and

(b) whether the Government of India would share the burden of the States when the States waive the interest payable by the farmers on such loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) As a policy, the Government of India are not in favour of any measures involving write off/waiver of either loan or interest thereon payable by the farmers to Cooperative Socities, as it tends to vitiate the climate of recovery, encourage wilful default and undermine the viability of credit institution. However, there are inbuilt provisions under the existing instiutional arrangements for conversion/reschedulement of loans in the event of crop failure due to national calamities. In addition, the Government of India have also introduced a new comprehensive crop insurance scheme with effect from kharif, 1985, with a view to provide relief to the loanee farmers in the event of crop failure due to natural calamities.

(b) In view of the position explained above, there is no such propsosal.

Paradeep Phosphate Limited

1678. SHRI GAYA CHAND BHUYAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for which the office of Paradeep Phosphate Limited has been functioning in Delhi in addition to one in Orissa; and

(b) whether Government propose to close down the Delhi office of the unit immediately?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FERTILIZERS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) The Paradeep Phosphates Limited (P.P.L.) is implementing fertilizers project at Paradeep in two phases. Phase I of the project has been completed. Phase II of the project which involves the construction of Phosphoric Acid, Sulphuric Acid and Captive Power Plants, is in hand. At this stage of the project, important functions like planning procurement of equipment organising working capital, liaison with Government agencies etc. can be done more effectively from Delhi.

(b) There is no proposal to close down the Delhi office of the company immediately.

Ownership of Janta Flats in Ranjit Nagar, New Delhi

1679. SHRI F. M. KHAN: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ownership has not so far been given to the allottees of DDA Janta Flats built in Ranjit Nagar, near Shadi Pur, New Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that the price of these flats has not yet been fixed by DDA and DDA has not handed over the flats to their owners as a result of which neither DDA nor the owners undertake the repair and maintenance thereof;

(c) whether the grills/glazing in the windows have not yet been fixed so far as a result of which thefts frequently take place in these flats;

(d) whether it is a fact that staircases are not covered and thus pose a serious threat to children;

(e) whether it is also a fact that the menace of stray cattle like pigs has made the life miserable in this colony particularly in 'C' to 'E' Blocks; and

(f) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government of India *vide* its order dated 11.6.84 has decided